Consumer Notice of Lead and Copper Results in Drinking Water

Water Supply Name: Benton Harbor

County: Berrien WSSN: 0600

Sample Location: Various (30) homes Date Sampled: Sept - 2018

Thank you for participating in the lead and copper monitoring of drinking water. The levels of lead and copper found at your location are in the table below.

Key to Table	Contaminant	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. **ppb**: parts per billion or micrograms per liter **ND**: not detected	Lead (ppb)	Result 15 22 ppb	0	~~0~~ 0 to 60 ppb
	Copper (ppb)	Result 1300 61 ppb	1300	~~0~~ 1.5 to 86 ~~ppb~~ ppb

Lead *can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and it can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.*

Copper *is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.*

To reduce exposure to lead and copper in drinking water:

- Run the water until it becomes cold, approximately 30 seconds to 2 minutes.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead and copper dissolves more easily in hot water.
- Do not boil water to remove lead and copper. Boiling water will not reduce lead and copper levels.
- Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. If your lead result is above 15 ppb, you may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010, or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters.
- Faucets, fittings, and valves purchased before 2014 may contain up to 8 percent lead. Faucets, fittings, and valves purchased after 2014 may contain up to 0.25 percent lead, including those advertised or labeled as "lead-free". These items may be contributing to the lead found in your drinking water.

Although the primary sources of lead exposure for most children are from deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated soil, the U.S. EPA estimates that 20 percent or more of human exposure to lead may come from drinking water.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit the U.S. EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

For more information on copper, visit the U.S. CDC's website at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/index.html, or contact your health provider.

For more information regarding your water supply, contact us at: www.bhcity.us.

Certification: I certify that this public water supply has provided the consumer notice of lead and copper results to persons served at each of the taps that was tested, either by mail or by another method approved by the DEQ. The Notice includes required content.

0600	10/8/18	10/10/18
WSSN	Date Sample Results Received	Date Sent to Consumer
Signature	Benton Harbor Water Supt	12/4/18
	Title	Date